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ANDEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS TO STUDY SITUATION IN HAVANA

FY080308 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0249 GMT 8 Apr 80 PY

[Text] Lima, 7 Apr (LATIN)--It was confirmed here today that the Bolivian, Colombian, Ecuadorean, Peruvian and Venezuelan foreign ministers, the members of the Andean Group Council, will meet here on Wednesday.

The meeting will study the situation at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana, where about 10,000 Cuban citizens are seeking asylum, according to Peruvian sources.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman told LATIN that the meeting will be held at the Torre Tagle Palace, the seat of the Foreign Ministry, and will begin at 1530 local time (2030 GMT).

The meeting was requested by the Peruvian Government to seek some solution to the problem posed by the refugees in its embassy in Cuba.

The spokesman reported that the foreign ministers of the five Andean countries have confirmed that they will participate in the meeting.

Venezuelan President Comments

PA071918 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1812 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Caracas, 7 Apr (EFE)--Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins has rejected Cuban accusations against his country and has confirmed that the Andean foreign ministers will meet on Wednesday to discuss the situation created by the thousands of refugees in the Peruvian Embassy in Havana.

This meeting will be held in Lima and will be aimed at defining a common position of the Andean countries (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela) regarding the right of asylum and the Cuban Government's attitude.

Herrera Campins termed the statements by the Cuban Government regarding Peru and Venezuela as "exaggerated verbal violence."

He also stressed that the new diplomatic incidents have created "one more element of concern in the Caribbean area, which is already explosive."

The allusions to Venezuela as a country that promotes violence in the occupation of its embassy by Cuban citizens seeking asylum, published by the newspaper GRANMA quoting Havana government spokesmen, were rejected by Herrera Campins as "inconsiderate."

"It was an excessive attack," the Venezuelan chief of state said, noting finally that his country maintains a firm stand regarding the right of asylum.

NONALIGNED NUCLEAR COOPERATION CONFERENCE SLATED FOR JUNE

PY071717 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2200 GMT 5 Apr 80 PY

[Text] Santa Fe, 5 Apr (TELAM)--Vice Adm Carlos Castro Madero, president of the National Atomic Energy Commission (CNEA), has said during an interview with the newspaper EL LITORAL that Argentina will be the venue of the first meeting of the coordinating group for cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy next June. He added that representatives of the nonaligned countries will attend this meeting. The group was created during the foreign ministers meeting of the nonaligned countries in Belgrade in 1978.

Castro Madero indicated that a preliminary meeting was held in Belgrade in 1978 and that the first meeting will be held in Buenos Aires. He also said that delegates from Yugoslavia, Egypt, Algeria, Indonesia, Cuba, Nigeria and another African nation will attend the meeting. He also pointed out that the purpose of the meeting is to expand cooperation in the nuclear field for peaceful use. He said: "Our country can implement this expansion among the countries of the Third World, particularly with those countries which are beginning to demonstrate interest in the application of nuclear energy for peaceful use in the field of energy, nuclear medicine and the development of industry and agriculture."

SOVIET TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR NEGOTIATIONS

PY071341 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2010 GMT 6 Apr 80 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 6 Apr (NA)--Argentina and the Soviet Union will start negotiations here tomorrow with the objective of intensifying trade and finding a basis for future agreements, including energy cooperation in the nuclear and thermal field. The Soviet delegation which is going to study with local officials the development of bilateral trade through a mixed commission created 6 years ago is headed by Aleksey Manzhulo, deputy minister of foreign trade, who arrived in Buenos Aires today.

Manzhulo said at Ezeiza Airport that his country is a "traditional buyer" of Argentine grains and that "independently of the U.S. decision, we are buying and will continue to buy cereals in Argentina." Asked about the effect of the U.S. grain embargo in the Soviet Union in reprisal for the occupation of Afghanistan, he responded that "as our chairman, Leonid Brezhnev, said: The supply of bread to our people will not be reduced by even a kilogram."

Regarding trade with Argentina, the Soviet official said that "it is developing very well" and that "there are possibilities of expansion in the future." He indicated that "all trade matters will be studied" during his stay in Argentina. He explained that he will hold meetings "to discuss our economic relations (with Argentina) which need decisions" and to examine "the future development of our commercial, economic, scientific and technical relations." Manzhulo added that the matters to be discussed with local officials include nuclear cooperation, and that the "discussions" on this matter "will produce conclusions and agreements which will eventually be signed by the two countries if they consider them beneficial."

The Soviet delegation headed by the deputy minister of foreign trade will be completed with the arrival of other officials next Tuesday. Other members of the delegation arrived in Buenos Aires yesterday, including Vladimir Pavlov, head of the state enterprise Energomasheksport. The formal meetings of the Argentine-Soviet mixed commission will begin next Tuesday but Soviet spokesmen in Buenos Aires said the first contacts will be made tomorrow.²

PRESIDENT GUEILER SWEARS IN NEW CABINET

PT080112 La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 8 Apr 80 PY

[Text] Interim President Lidia Gueiler Tejada swore in the new Cabinet ministers during a ceremony held in the Government Palace Hall tonight. The president's coworkers who took the oath are the following:

Foreign Minister	Gaston Araoz Levy
Interior Minister	Gen Antonio Arez (ret)
Defense Minister	Rear Adm Walter Nunez Rivero
Planning and Coordination Minister	(Jaime Ponce Miranda)
Finance Minister	Adolfo Aramayo
Education Minister	Carlos Antonio Carrasco
Industry and Commerce Minister	Juan Carlos Navajas
Labor Minister	Isaac Sandoval
Mining Minister	Jorge Gutierrez del Rio
Peasant Affairs Minister	Mario Viscarra
Energy and Hydrocarbons Minister	(Mario Quinteros)
Public Health Minister	Hugo Palacio
Urban Development and Housing Minister	Ernesto Wende
Minister Secretary of the Presidency	Salvador Romero
Integration Minister	Fernando Salazar
Transport and Communications Minister	Ernesto Rivero
Social Welfare Minister	Elva Ojara de Jemio
Press and Information Secretary	Oscar Pena Franco

After the ceremony President Gueiler Tejada said in her formal speech that the country demands from both the rulers and the ruled responsibility in all their actions in order that they might seek the most viable solutions for the Bolivian people. She also referred to requests for salary increases, stressing that even though they are justified they cannot always be granted because of the difficult economic situation the country is going through. She also asserted that all measures which might be taken in connection with the salary demands must always be in accordance with the economic reality of the nation and that the prosperity of the people will always be protected.

FIGUEIREDO REPORTEDLY TO VISIT SOVIET UNION IN 1981

PY071910 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Apr 80 p 6 PY

[By Carlos Chagas]

[Excerpts] President Joao Figueiredo on 14 or 15 April will receive a visit from E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, who will invite President Figueiredo on behalf of Leonid Brezhnev to visit the Soviet Union.

According to information obtained in the foreign ministries in Brasilia and Moscow, negotiations have been going on secretly for some months. The invitation reportedly will be accepted and initially scheduled for 1981, when Figueiredo also will visit the United States.

The high-ranking Soviet official will arrive next week heading a Soviet mission made up of several deputies.

Figueiredo will certainly explain carefully the significance of this mission which, although obviously political, is more important economically for Brazil.

Brazil is interested in opening up any potential market to reach its \$40 billion goal for the export business by 1985, and the Soviet Union can be a sizable market for certain Brazilian products such as shoes and agricultural products. The Soviet Union could in return sell heavy equipment to Brazil.

What would the Soviet Union expect back in political terms? According to international political observers, the Soviets would in this way try to improve their image--obviously damaged by the invasion of Afghanistan--as well as to sing trade and technological agreements and expand imports and exports. All of this should indirectly bring political dividends to the Soviets. The aim of the USSR cannot be so high as to expect Brazil to automatically align itself with Soviet positions on international issues. Its aim will just be to create good will--for the time being at least....

TWO MILITARY POLICEMEN ARRESTED OVER WAGE DEMANDS

PY051526 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 Apr 80 PY

[Text] The atmosphere surrounding the Rio de Janeiro military police is one of apparent calm after two officers were arrested last Thursday and charged with leading a movement to obtain salary increases.

Rio de Janeiro Governor Chagas Freitas met with his advisers and indicated that he will not agree to an increase beyond that which is provided for by law.

BRIEFS

FEBRUARY TRADE DEFICIT--The Foreign Trade Department has reported that the Brazilian trade balance had a \$400-million deficit in February, since its imports amounted to \$1.75 billion while its exports amounted to only \$1.35 billion. Petroleum was the major import item, totaling \$660 million. [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 3 Apr 80 PY]

ALCOHOL EXPORTS--During the first quarter of this year, Brazil exported 40 million liters of alcohol worth 60 million cruzeiros. Most of these exports went to Japan, followed by the United States and France. Current stocks in Sao Paulo amount to 400 million liters and distilleries complain that the lack of proper ships is the main obstacle for exporting alcohol. [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 5 Apr 80 PY]

REPORTAGE ON DOMINICAN EMBASSY SITUATION

11th Round of Talks

PA072113 Paris AFP in Spanish 2051 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 7 Apr (AFP)--The 11th round of talks on the hostages held at the Dominican Republic Embassy here began at 1540 (2040 GMT) in the open van parked in front of the embassy. One of the Colombian Government delegates was carrying a portfolio, probably a memorandum of reply to the demands of the 19 April Movement commando unit. Those demands include the release of many people accused of alleged rebellion.

Talks End

PA072325 Paris AFP in Spanish 2240 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 7 Apr (AFP)--The 11th round of talks on the hostages being held by the 19 April Movement (M-19) ended here today after 1 hour and 40 minutes with a cordial farewell between the participants.

One of the Colombian Government representatives had previously handed a portfolio to the rebel representative which presumably contains President Turbay's new proposal. At the end of the dialog, held inside the van, the negotiators, including Peruvian Consul Alfredo Tejeda, who is a witness to the negotiations, bade farewell to one another with friendly handshakes.

'Minor Differences'

PA080224 Paris AFP in Spanish 0056 GMT 8 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 7 Apr (AFP)--Minor differences surfaced today during the 11th round of talks held between government representatives and a hooded 19 April Movement female guerrilla to reach agreement on the release of 20 hostages that the leftwing group has been holding for the past 41 days in the Dominican Republic Embassy, the government reported in a communique furnished to AFP tonight.

The new round of negotiations, like the previous ones, was held in an open van parked about 20 meters from the embassy. According to the communique, the views aired by all the participants were carefully examined during the meeting.

Tension Mounts

PA071615 Paris AFP in Spanish 1329 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 7 Apr (AFP)--The diplomatic corps accredited to the Colombian Government increased pressure here today for a prompt solution to the Dominican Embassy takeover by the 19 April Guerrilla Movement [M-19], which is still holding 20 hostages.

The group of 15 countries whose diplomats remain captive was held meetings with Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas to request that negotiations be hastened so that their chiefs or colleagues of mission may be released as soon as possible.

The pressures have increased because 19 April is approaching. On this date the M-19 commemorates its 10th anniversary and it is feared that it might take reprisals.

Some of the recently freed hostages have stated that the terrorist group has a secret plan to be carried out on that date. [Recently released] Dominican businessman Mario Guzman Cabrales said today that tension is mounting among the hostages as 19 April approaches, but for no specific reason. It is feared that anything might happen in the embassy on that date.

Guzman Cabrales, who said he will travel to his country in the next few days to deliver to his president a Dominican flag which he took from the embassy on Thursday, also revealed that the terrorists have mined the embassy's first floor.

Released Hostage Questioned

PA070402 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0155 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 6 Apr (LATIN)--Tito Libio Tiburcio, one of the three hostages released today by the leftwing guerrillas occupying the Dominican Embassy, was taken to the Military Institutes Brigade (BIM) tonight for questioning, a military spokesman reported.

Libio Tiburcio, a Dominican employee at his country's consulate, was identified by military sources as one of the persons who helped the guerrillas prior to the 27 February occupation.

He left the embassy this afternoon along with Guillermo Triana, Foreign Ministry protocol officer, and Alberto Byfield, honorary consul of Jamaica. After a medical checkup, Libio Tiburcio was taken to the BIM headquarters in the northern part of the city, the spokesman said. There was no information as to charges he may have to face.

Paper Reports Ransom Paid

PA072252 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2002 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Bogota, 7 Apr (EFE)--A total of eight countries, whose high-ranking diplomatic officials are being held by the M-19 guerrilla group at the Dominican Republic Embassy here, have already paid ransoms amounting to \$1.6 million.

This was reported today by Bogota's EL ESPACIO, which added that the ransom was paid to "connections" of the terrorist group in various parts of the capital. Meanwhile, government negotiators and a masked guerrilla have held 10 meetings in a van.

The paper says that on 28 March two M-19 members received, at one of Bogota's embassies, sums amounting to \$200,000 for the release of seven hostages. It says these included diplomats from Brazil, Paraguay, Peru, Israel and Switzerland as well as the papal nuncio. It also says \$200,000 was deposited in a numbered account in Panama as ransom for Austrian Ambassador Edgar Selzer, the first to be released.

The paper says "timely" payment of \$200,000 allowed Uruguayan Ambassador Fernando Gomez Fyns to escape without interference from the guerrillas.

Eleven ambassadors and seven foreign officials, together with a photographer and a Colombian newsmen, are still in the embassy.

ROLDOS VOWS TO RESIGN IF REFORMS NOT ACCEPTED

PA071425 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0819 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpts] Quito, 7 Apr (EFE)--Ecuadorean President Jaime Roldos announced last night that he will resign if the reforms he wants to introduce to the Constitution are rejected in a popular plebiscite.

In this way he began a campaign to secure the adoption of substantial amendments to the Constitution. His move is interpreted as an almost desperate effort within the constitutional order to end the conflict which exists with the majority wing of the legislature headed by its president, Assad Bucaram. Paradoxically, Bucaram is leader of the party to which Roldos belongs, the Concentration of Popular Forces.

During an impromptu 60-minute speech on a radio and television network, the chief of state referred to his convoking of an extraordinary congress session for today to study the constitutional reforms. During his lengthy and at times passionate speech, Roldos was accompanied by Vice President Osvaldo Hurtado and Cabinet ministers.

Roldos last night explained his reforms, their foundation and justification, noting that there is no other solution for the conflict existing with the majority wing of the Congress led by the leader of his own party. He recalled how after the electoral victory that took him to the presidency there was a convergence between the sectors defeated at the polls and the ones "frustrated" by his victory, mentioning Bucaram among the latter.

This "antihistoric majority," he said, adopted divisive positions in the Congress trying to handcuff the executive by limiting his powers, cutting his economic resources and hindering the principle of authority.

Roldos stressed that his democratic tolerance had been mistaken for weakness by those sectors and said that he has exhausted all possibilities of dialog to find a solution that will safeguard democracy and the will for change expressed at the polls.

"If the conflict with the Congress has no solution, we must resort to the people," the president stressed.

Roldos then announced that the Congress is preparing for a "great tribunal of slander" for Monday with the aim of trying to bring a political trial against the government minister and even against the president of the republic instead of debating the proposed constitutional reforms.

He also made it clear that some political sectors have considered during these days the alternative of an eventual military solution. "They have tried to approach the garrisons," Roldos said, adding immediately: "I will not tolerate sedition from anyone."

According to the constitutional norms the presidential reforms must be submitted to the legislature before being submitted to popular plebiscite.

Roldos attributed great importance to this electoral consultation and declared himself a sure winner. He said: "We will smash sedition in the polls."

However, he warned that "if the will of the people were to decide that the president has not been right, gentlemen, I will resign because I do not want to be an obstacle to the democratic life of this country."

STROESSNER REPORTEDLY TO VISIT TAIWAN, JAPAN

PY071835 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 7 Apr 80 p 8 PY

[From the "Between the Lines" column]

[Text] "Write this down. The president's trip to China is an actual fact. Only a few details of protocol remain. The tour of the Far East, which includes possible stops in Japan, for example, is already being mentioned in official circles.

"It seems that spring [presumably Southern Hemisphere] will be beneficial for Paraguayan relations."

(The mysterious man on the telephone made this judgment apparently on a sound basis...)

CENSORSHIP EXPECTED FOR STROESSNER-FIGUEIREDO TALKS

PY071706 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Apr 80 p 1 PY

[By special envoy Marcos Wilson]

[Text] During his visit to Paraguay which begins on Wednesday, President Figueiredo will receive four requests considered to be priorities by General Stroessner. The first request is that Brazil abandon the territory that is in dispute in the Sete Quedas Falls region, where the Transport Ministry is building an agency. The other requests refer to economic matters such as a higher price for the Itaipu electricity that is to be sold to Brazil, the signing of an agreement for the construction of a highway between Concepcion [Paraguay] and Ponta Pora, [Brazil] and finally the conclusion of a treaty for a rail link between Asuncion and Brazilian ports on the Atlantic. Thus, Figueiredo's trip will be something more than just a courtesy visit, but the censorship system in force in Paraguay may stop Brazilian journalists from obtaining most of the information regarding the visit. All material transmitted abroad is only let through once it has been read by the censors.

Official Denies Charge

PY071837 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 7 Apr 80 p 9 PY

[Text] "There is not any kind of censorship in Paraguay," Miguel Angel Bestard, under secretary of the Interior Ministry, told this newspaper last night when asked about press reports from Brazilian journalists published on this page.

Bestard reiterated that censorship does not exist in Paraguay and that the delays reported by Brazilian journalists are probably the result of technical problems at the National Telecommunications Administration (ANTELCO), as happens anywhere in the world when Telex is used.

EDITORIAL DISCUSSES U.S. SENATE VOTE ON CANAL

PA041416 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 3 Apr 80 p 4 A PA

[Editorial: "Positive U.S. Reaction"]

[Text] One of the most impressive parts of the speech by Dr Aristides Royo, president of the republic, at the Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives on 1 April, was the part where he referred to Panamanian dissatisfaction with the way the United States has been misrepresenting, delaying and even violating both the letter and the spirit of the agreements contained in the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

The president referred to the unilateral and unjust way in which the United States has been interpreting and implementing some of the provisions contained in the pact, stressing the U.S. Senate's delay in appointing the Canal Commission members. This appointment is essential to the effective creation of this body, which is supposed to carry out duties without which the implementation of the treaties would be little more than a dead letter.

The appointment of the U.S. members to that commission became effective only a few hours after President Royo--speaking before the people's congress gathered for a special session--informed the nation on a national radio and television network about his concern over this situation and about his firm determination not to permit under any circumstances the implementation of measures and actions that might violate the treaties' agreements.

President Royo was very clear when he said that Panama will exhaust all resources in order to preserve the applicability [vigencia] of those documents. He said this in such a way that there was no room left for the slightest trace of a doubt regarding his firm determination to reject all U.S. actions that might be regarded as violations of that which cost our two nations so many and such lengthy discussions. It is for this reason that it is satisfying to confirm how, shortly thereafter, President Carter's administration obtained the Senate approval by an overwhelming majority for appointments that had been postponed due to the tenacious opposition of North Carolina's Republican Senator Jesse Helms.

This senator represents that negative part of the Senate which still hangs on to the old imperious concepts and subjugation which have done so much harm in the past and continue to do at present to the international prestige of the United States, as a nation seeking the leadership of democratic countries.

The Senate's reaction, meanwhile, seals the validity of President Carter's promise to President Royo in response to his recent public letter. This immediate reaction is, of course, the logical result of the upright course and integrity that Dr Royo's government has shown all this time. Its culmination was the vibrant speech President Royo delivered to his people with the firmness, serenity and inflexible determination that correspond to a chief of state in a critical situation resulting from the zigzagging U.S. course.

U.S. PAYS TREATY COMMITMENTS MINUS WATER BILL

PA040315 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 3 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpt] The U.S. Government has paid Panama its financial commitments entered into as a result of the 1977 treaties. It paid \$30 million during the first 5 months, but discounted the \$1 million it claims Panama owes for water service to the cities of Panama and Colon. Although there has been no official comment on the matter and strict silence is being maintained on the situation, Televisora Nacional has learned that the amount of the debt claimed by the United States because of water service from the Miraflores water purification amounts to \$9 million.

In a speech given by President Royo in Coto-47, Costa Rica, he said that Panama would refuse to pay the debts claimed by the United States and the situation has created a deadlock between the two countries.

More recently, relations between Panama and the United States have become bitter and in his 1 April speech, President Aristides Royo warned the United States that Panama will not tolerate more violations of the spirit and letter of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

PDP CONDEMNS ROMERO'S MURDER, U.S. INTERVENTION

PAO40247 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Apr 80 PA

[Text] In a plenary session of its Central Committee, the Panamanian People's Party has condemned the assassination of Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, head of the Catholic Church in El Salvador, and accused the United States of seeking to intervene in that Central American country to create a government similar to the one it installed in Chile in 1973.

The Panamanian communists added in their declaration that those actions are also designed to strike at the new Nicaragua and all national liberation movements in the area.

SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS SALVADORAN PEOPLE

PAO40428 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 3 Apr 80 p 8 PA

[Text] The same persons who snuffed out the life of Archbishop Romero tried to prevent the massive crowds which went to pay a final homage to the one that was, and still is, the champion of the poor: Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero.

The outcome of the brutal attack against the Salvadoran people was 100 killed and 300 wounded. Thousands have already fallen in the struggle to attain the final liberation and the realization of happiness.

Archbishop Romero defended the people's organizations and was murdered by the enemies of the people. The same ones attacked half a million Salvadorans who on 30 March went not to bury a corpse but to support a cause. The Panamanian Committee of Solidarity With the People of El Salvador publicly repudiates this new and treacherous attack against the legitimate aspirations of the Salvadoran people.

The committee publicly repudiates the intervention by the United States, which supports the tottering Salvadoran Government junta. The Panamanian Committee of Solidarity With the People of El Salvador emphatically protests the improper use of U.S. military bases in our territory as a staging point for aggression against our sister country. It calls to our government's attention another violation of the Torrijos-Carter treaties and international law.

The committee repudiates the campaign of distortion waged by some transnational news agencies who want to blame people's organizations for the bloodbath suffered by the Salvadoran people. The people's organizations are the defenders of the majority interests.

The committee supports the Revolutionary Coordinating Board in its government program. It also supports the people's organizations and demands a halt to U.S. intervention and demands justice for the murdered, massacred and repressed.

COSTA RICA

CUBAN REFUGEES IN HAVANA MAY BE GRANTED POLITICAL ASYLUM

PA080226 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Apr 80 PA

[Text] The Costa Rican Government may give political asylum to an unspecified number of Cuban refugees at the Peruvian Embassy in Havana as a way to help the Peruvian Government. Although the matter is being kept under strict secrecy, it was learned from confidential government sources that when Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier returned to the country, President Carazo asked him to begin working to that end.

With this attitude, the Costa Rican Government once again wants to show its support for any action taken in defense of human rights, but careful steps are being taken not to ruffle any diplomatic feathers.

It was also reported that if asylum is being given to the Cuban refugees in the Peruvian Embassy, cooperation would also be given to evacuate those people who do not want to live on Fidel Castro's island and the Peruvian Government would be helped to solve the problem it is facing.

AUTHORITIES DENY ARMS TRAFFICKING RUMOR

PA071957 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1756 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Public security authorities have denied the existence of alleged arms trafficking reportedly taking place on a landing strip on the Atlantic side of the country following an official investigation.

Rural guards had been informed that suspicious activities were taking place in an abandoned airfield in an area known as Moravia de Turrialba. According to the report, the weapons were being taken in a trailer to this field and from there they were being taken abroad, presumably to El Salvador. Several officials went to the area, which is inhabited by an Indian community that engages in crafts. They said no plane has arrived there for a long time.

Public Security Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey recently said Costa Rica is remaining neutral in the Salvadoran conflict and will not allow arms trafficking toward that country.

TRUCKERS WILL NOT TRANSIT EL SALVADOR

PA050024 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2235 GMT 4 Apr 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, 4 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--According to an agreement approved today by the Central American Transporters Union, their trucks will not pass through Salvadoran territory. Union spokesman said "due to the present lack of security for their personnel, vehicles and goods, their units will not pass through that nation along their regular routes." They said trucks going to Guatemala will use the Inter-American Highway to Jicaró Calán and continue through Honduran territory via San Pedro Sula-Esquipulas-Guatemala City.

According to the report transport rates will increase by 30 percent because of the longer route, adding 600 km to the distance between the two terminals. Apart from this, users must pay the Honduran Government \$75 for the escort that must accompany them in their passage through Honduran territory.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE EXPLAINS NEWSMEN'S SHOOTING, PDC POSITION

PA060003 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 0130 GMT 4 Apr 80 PA

[Carlos Samyoa Martiner exclusive interview with Jose Napoleon Duarte on 3 April 1980, place not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Regarding Tuesday nights' regrettable incident, when policemen shot at newsmen from the Netherlands, what exactly happened and what have been the findings?

[Answer] During the same evening of the incident, foreign newsmen called me and I went to the Camino Real Hotel to learn about the problem. I immediately contacted military leaders and acted according to the information available.

Later at almost 0500 we decided to wait until the following day to get all the information and at 0800 we had the complete report. I called a news conference at 1100 inviting all foreign correspondents, as I had promised. We had met with the general staff, and then held a news conference together with Colonel Garcia and with police director General Colonel Diaz.

The facts were as follows: You all know that the Guatemalan Embassy is on Arce Street and that it has been attacked several times. On that same day it was fired upon and the Guatemalan ambassador was wounded. Therefore the national police had been ordered to remain on maximum alert. That is to say be aware of danger, even for themselves while patrolling that block. They were alert to any incident at any time.

Apparently an automobile with five persons arrived at a nearby restaurant and went around the block twice arousing the policemen's suspicions. When these gentlemen left the restaurant the policemen tried to intercept them and ask for identification. Something happened between them, because at this point there are diverging reports. The policemen said the driver asked them, what's happening? However, the driver claims they said, we are newsmen and are on our way to the hotel. There was no identification check. The driver drove off in his automobile and the nervous policemen fired on the automobile. One of the shots pierced the car and wounded one of the newsmen. This is how the incident happened.

As you can understand there is a problem. In the first place blood was shed and according to our laws all incidents involving bloodshed must be heard at the corresponding tribunals. Therefore, we have ordered an investigation of the two policemen involved in the incident, that is to say the policemen guarding the Guatemalan Embassy. They have been subjected to preventive detention and will later be arraigned before the judge who will decree the corresponding process, based on the accusations which we asked the newsmen to present before the courts. This is the manner in which this is handled according to our laws and we asked the foreign newsmen to cooperate with the process and this is what we were going to do.

Therefore all this was done. Colonel [word indistinct] explained and Colonel Garcia assured them that this is the just, legal and logical way to handle this matter and informed them that the Salvadoran Government and the armed forces settle these violent incidents according to our laws and that newsmen, both domestic and foreign, are assured once again the respect and right due them so they can do their work and transmit information to the rest of the world.

This is a summary of the problem and we are informing the Salvadoran people of what we have done. At the beginning I found the newsmen hysterical and uncontrolled but after some hours of interviews and questions, some of them impertinent, little by little they understood reason and the next day they accepted our explanation which is logical and sensible.

Naturally, they informed the world and this will affect our image abroad.

[Question] By the way, have you received any protest from the Netherlands Government? We have learned from international reports that a protest will be filed at The Hague.

[Answer] It is possible that we will receive a protest and naturally, our reply will be the logical one for these cases, that is to present the corresponding apologies. Whenever a foreigner, or a local citizen, is harmed by government personnel in this manner, there is a natural weakening in international relations and the offended country protests. The other country presents its apologies if it feels that the protest is justified.

We believe that the protest is justified and I have no objections in saying that our country must apologize for this incident in which a foreign newsman was involved.

[Question] Mr Duarte, while reporting this incident a foreign news agency claimed that you said that if violence continued, you, the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], would be compelled to leave the government. Is this true?

[Answer] You must understand that this happened on the night of the incident and newsmen insisted that I said that I would leave the government.

This was the reply they wanted to hear. Every question referred to this possibility. Why don't you leave the government? Leave the government, this type of attitude. Therefore, in one of these questions they presented the hypothesis, that is: What would happen if people are being murdered in the country, what would your party do? From a moral and ideological point of view, could it continue under such conditions of extreme violence? I said if these conditions and extreme violence existed, logically we could not remain in the government. But this does not mean that these conditions exist in the country.

Here we come to the problem of the use made of statements to the press. They have taken these statements, changed the context and simply related it to this circumstantial incident which does not merit a radical decision such as this. Also I told them, I am not the one who decides on my participation in the government. This matter is to be decided by the PDC and I will not flee the country or leave the government. I have to work with the party because the party has decided to work with the people and defend the people's interests. I am working on this basis. I am doing my duty as the party has instructed me and I do not have to make this personal decision because this is not a personal decision. This is a national decision. The whole country knows that the PDC is in the government because this is a critical moment. The country knows we are doing our best to save the country and we shall continue to do so.

Therefore, from the point of view of the improper use made of this statement, and the manner in which it was presented by some news media, including some domestic ones, I want to say that the PDC is determined to continue working to save the country and find a democratic solution to the situation; and, as a Christian Democrat, I am determined to fight and strive to attain these goals.

[Question] We understand that U.S. Ambassador Robert White has been called by his government to report on recent incidents. I would like your opinion on the ambassador's trip. Do you think it could have some negative effects for the present regime?

[Answer] I think it is normal and natural that this incident and the death of the archbishop will be international news. And not only today, it will be one of the most important news items of the year. Therefore the moment is of great historical importance to the entire world, because here we are waging an ideological battle of three great forces trying to channel the country's future: the Marxism-Leninism of the left, the Manchester liberalism of the right and the democracy of the government junta. The three are trying to find a solution and we believe that the democratic solution is the best.

All this is therefore being watched by other governments and they are concerned at the outcome of this struggle. The country is now a center of world attention and this is why it is logical that the ambassadors living here, coexisting with us and feeling our problems should be called frequently to give their opinions and points of view so that governments can arrive at decisions with the most information possible.

I believe this is the reason the U.S. Government has called Ambassador White; to hear what he has to say, to view the situation and hear his interpretation of this. This will determine the various policies to be followed by the State Department regarding its conduct in El Salvador.

[Question] Mr Duarte, we were informed that most of the Cabinet members had threatened to resign from the government. We want to know if this is true and to ask you if you have already chosen the persons who will replace the ministers of economy and education and the agriculture secretary?

[Answer] I am not aware of what you have just told me. Therefore I must say that I do not know anything about this and cannot give you an answer. Regarding the three replacements, the matter will not be studied until after the Easter holidays when we shall make the corresponding decisions.

[Question] International reports have said that Maj Roberto d'Aubuisson and businessman Alfredo Mena Lagos are in the United States and have appeared before the U.S. Congress offering another alternative to the country's situation. I would like to hear your opinion on the matter.

[Answer] From the government's point of view, we can say that each person has the right to his own opinions. This is precisely the way democracy works. Even if he is a rightist, from the political point of view, he has the right to express his point of view, to be heard, and the people will make the final decision.

My personal view however, is that I believe Salvadorans know who this man is, what he stands for and what is his attitude. Everyone knows that this man has participated in the extreme right violence that has created, or tried to create, divisions within the army and plotted coups d'etat in the country. In brief, he is one of the prototypes of the extreme right who is giving the country such a bad image and have done so for the past 50 years. Therefore I believe that it is inconceivable that such a man, who favors violence, be taken seriously.

[Question] In one of the paragraphs of this report it says that Alfredo Mena Lagos, the other representative, says that he is proposing to join the government, but not to replace the FDC. On the contrary he said that they would demand the FDC remain within the government and assume responsibility for having harmed the country. Would you be willing to share the government with these persons?

[Answer] Just look at what you are saying. What these gentlemen from the extreme right are saying is that they would assume power and ask the FDC to share with the extreme right the (?cross borne by our people.) Definitely I would not be willing to share power with the extreme right because it would launch the country into an unheard of ideological action of imposition, injustice and create false freedom and this is precisely what we have been fighting against for 20 years and we shall continue fighting to keep this from happening.

[Question] Do you have any message for our people?

[Answer] People of El Salvador, today is Holy Thursday. We have lived through very sad weeks. A man of great importance to the country has given his life and during his funeral sad events occurred which cost many lives and in which many persons were injured. All this was caused by a lack of awareness and understanding by many sectors. They cannot understand that we can live in a society only when there is harmony and understanding and when the people participate with justice and freedom in finding just solutions. These sectors think only of violence. The gentlemen of the extreme right are always trying to thwart our efforts toward democracy and freedom for the people and are constantly trying to provoke violence simply to maintain their privileges. These gentlemen must realize that the people do not want this any longer. The people want justice and this is why the people are willing to support social changes, the agrarian and banking reform and other reforms which the government is implementing to change structures in the country.

At the other end is the extreme left which also refuses to assume an attitude of harmony, freedom and justice and wants to impose its will. It wants to impose its system by means of fire and blood. What it seeks is violence for the sake of violence, and it uses fear, kidnappings, death, executions and all these violent actions, including bombs to create panic. This is causing unrest in the country. They are also projecting a sad image abroad. The image we are projecting is that we are not a civilized people, but a people involved in a limitless violence where moral values and attitudes do not exist and that the only thing that prevails is the law of the jungle. I believe that the people are sick of this. I believe the people want to live in peace. This is why I ask the people not to remain with their arms crossed but to help the government find solutions.

In the first place we are waging a battle against the extreme left and right, but also the whole world is looking upon us askance, with distrust repudiating our acts of violence. I ask all of you who have different points of view, to abstain from trying to solve problems by means of violence. This is bad. We must put a halt to this. I ask all of you to think twice and now, that we are in the Easter holidays. Tomorrow when we will commemorate the death of our Lord, think about this man who died 2000 years ago and bore the message before God that the world is ready to suffer for a just cause which is for the good of man and his soul. In this respect I ask all Salvadorans to think once again, seek the ways to peace and harmony and that they make this Easter holy day a turning point for the nation so that starting on Monday we can start to rebuild our country.

I ask all of you who own land to plant. The rains are coming; this is the time to plant. This is how we must help to rebuild the country. Make a great effort; begin to plant. Because if we plant we shall have food and, having food, we can settle our problems.

I want to thank you for the chance to speak to all Salvadorans and I am sure that the people will respond, working, striving within the unions to produce more, that businessmen will respond by being more just with the workers, that commerce employees will respond and sell more and also merchants will respond by paying better salaries. The farmers will also respond by planting more and producing more so the country can progress. This is what we want. This is what the people want and, God willing, starting on Monday, this will be the spirit in our country. Thank you for this opportunity.

DUNN'S FAMILY PLEADS WITH FPL TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS

PA072031 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1646 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--A dramatic appeal to continue negotiations for the release of Archibald Gardner Dunn, kidnaped South African ambassador to El Salvador, has been directed to the Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces (FPL) by members of the diplomat's family. In a paid advertisement in the main Salvadoran morning papers today, the relatives asked the leftist FPL to indicate what path it would like to take in establishing future communications with the family.

The mediator between the two parties was Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, slain archbishop of San Salvador. The archbishop publicly addressed the kidnapers in his homilies, urging them to show flexibility in dealing with the family.

The FPL has asked the family to pay a ransom of \$20 million for Dunn's release. However, the members of the family have already said on various occasions, once through the archbishop, that they cannot meet that demand. This statement was reiterated today in the paid advertisement in the morning papers. The document, signed by the diplomat's wife, Daphne, states: "We have to repeat that the only resources available to us are the family funds, already greatly depleted by my lengthy illness, money from the sale of a few tangible assets and the money collected from sympathizers in South Africa and other countries." Mrs Dunn also asks for "direct proof that Eddie is all right."

The FPL is also holding Salvadoran industrialist Tomas Adolfo McEntee, of whom nothing has been heard in the last few weeks.

The last information issued by the FPL regarding the kidnaped diplomat was a photo sent to domestic newspapers in late February. Several foreign newsmen have interviewed Dunn in his place of captivity.

TWO EXTREMISTS KILLED IN CLASH WITH POLICE

PA080322 San Salvador Radio Cadena Central in Spanish 1420 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Two subversives were killed in a clash reported in Santa Clarita, La Union. The firefight occurred when Farabundo Marti Peoples Liberation Forces members attacked customs police, who fought off the assailants and killed the two extremists.

ROMERO REPLACEMENT RESIGNS TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT

PA072032 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1554 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Msgr Ricardo Urioste today announced he resigned last week as head vicar of the archdiocese of San Salvador before the apostolic nuncio in San Salvador. The prelate was appointed head vicar by the metropolitan curia during the 24 hours following the murder of the archbishop of San Salvador, Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero.

Urioste, who was general vicar of the Salvadoran archdiocese while Monsignor Romero was alive, has been temporarily replacing the murdered archbishop until the Holy See appoints his permanent replacement, who will become the fifth archbishop of San Salvador.

In his resignation presented on 1 April to the apostolic nuncio, Urioste said "it is very, very urgent that the Holy See appoint, now, as soon as possible, the new pastor of the archdiocese of San Salvador." The head vicar says that he thinks "it is absolutely necessary" that someone be appointed who is capable of coping with "this suffering archdiocese and this country and its peculiar socioeconomic and, above all, political situation."

ACAN-EFE tried to interview spokesmen of the nunciature or the archbishopric but received no reply to the questions made over the telephone. It is not known if the resignation has been accepted by the Holy See and if it will proceed quickly to appoint the new archbishop.

Some priests feel there is a good possibility that the bishop of Santiago de Maria, Arturo Rivera y Damas, who follows the progressive line of the assassinated archbishop, will be appointed the new archbishop. Very few think it is possible that Urioste, who also follows the new church line, will be appointed. Some think that Fabian Amaya, vicar of Chalatenango, northern El Salvador, will be appointed.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR JUNTA

PA041300 San Jose Radio Noticias del Continente in Spanish 0130 GMT 4 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpt] The Christian Democratic Union of Central America [UDCCA] last night decided in San Jose to maintain its support of the current government junta of El Salvador. The UDCCA issued a communique on this after analyzing the regional political situation, particularly that of El Salvador. The decision was made at the same time as the Salvadoran Christian Democratic Party's [PDC] popular faction, which was recently expelled from the party after it denounced the government's repressive and rightist line, announced the establishment of a Democratic Front. This new political group also includes the Social Democrats and other organizations.

According to the UDCCA communique, the Christian Democrats of Central America decided to recognize the work their fellow Salvadoran party members are doing to reestablish peace in their country through reforms and the gradual control of the rightwing and leftwing, which through their violent clashes victimize the Salvadoran people who do not support this violence. The UDCCA also expressed its solidarity with the Salvadoran people and urged the Salvadoran PDC to continue its efforts to reconstruct peace and establish political, social and economic democracy.

Delegates of all Central American countries, including Pablo Mauricio Alverque, Salvadoran minister of the presidency, and well-known international Christian Democratic leaders Aristides Calvani and Rene de Leon, participated in the meeting.

OPPOSITION GROUPS FORM DEMOCRATIC FRONT

PA041652 San Jose Radio Noticias del Continente in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Opposition politicians, doctors, lawyers and labor leaders yesterday announced the creation of a new democratic front to support the Revolutionary Coordinating Board [CRM] in its struggle to oust the civilian-military government junta. According to AFP, the movement is trying to repeat the Nicaraguan experience of the broad national opposition front and is made up of eight political and labor groups. Its program is based on the CRM platform.

Enrique Cordoba, former agriculture minister, said: We are giving the Salvadoran people the benefit of our experience in order to form a broad front of support for their struggle.

According to AP, the struggle he was referring to is the popular effort for the transformation of the country which is being counteracted by what the international news agency described as bloody rightist terrorism.

The popular faction of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] makes up the front together with the National Revolutionary Movement [MNR], the Independent Movement of Professionals and Technicians [Movimiento Independiente de Profesionales y Tecnicos --MIPT] which includes doctors, lawyers and professors, all of whom oppose the PDC leaders who formed the government jointly with the military officers early in January.

The front, AP notes, is the first sign that the cooperation between the moderate sectors and the revolutionary left is a fact. The government did not make any immediate comments about the announcement which was made during a news conference.

For its part, the CRM leadership attended the news conference. Manuel Franco, leader of the Nationalist Democratic Union [UDN], said that the front supports the struggle of the Salvadoran people and is a positive step in their struggle to end exploitation and repression.

Julio Flores of the People's Revolutionary Bloc [BPR], said that the Salvadoran Democratic Front [FDS] demonstrates to the world how isolated the government is.

In addition to the BPR and the UDN, the CRM includes the United Popular Action Front and the 28 February Peoples Leagues. The leaders of the front did not say how many people they represent. However, the leaders of two groups noted that they have 50,000 members each.

MNR leader Raul Valiente urged all democratic governments to denounce and put an end to military aid to El Salvador, including the U.S. aid aimed at refining the genocide against all those who struggle for a change. He also asked that there be no foreign intervention in El Salvador and demanded an end to government repression, U.S. intervention and the lies of the U.S. Government represented by Ambassador White in San Salvador.

U.S. Embassy sources confirmed that White went to Washington for consultations. The embassy sources asked AP not to identify them and refused to explain whether White requested the consultations or if Washington recalled him.

GUATEMALA

CNUS REQUESTS STANDARDIZED MINIMUM WAGE

PA051352 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 28 Mar 80 p 32 PA

[Text] The National Council of Labor Unity (CNUS) yesterday morning handed a note to Carlos Alarcon Monsanto, labor and social planning minister, asking the government for a 7 quetzal minimum wage for all workers in the cities.

In its note, CNUS analyzes the rate of inflation in the country in recent years. CNUS says that while prices of articles of basic consumption, school items, oil byproducts and others have increased enormously, wages have remained below the inflationary trend.

According to CNUS, wages in the cities and in rural areas have not been adjusted to meet inflation. Therefore, the government should establish a 7 quetzal minimum wage without distinction to all workers in the city, CNUS says.

CNUS is also asking the government to make effective the 3.20 quetzal minimum wage for rural workers which already has been approved, to order a stop to the massive dismissal of workers from farms and sugarcane mills, to reinstate all workers dismissed and to take no reprisals against any of the workers.

CNUS has given the government until 9 April to solve these problems; otherwise it will have to resort to other measures.

Minister Alarcon Monsanto agreed that every worker has a right to demand a wage increase. However, he added, we are going to study your demands carefully to see how we can solve them. Meanwhile, Minister Alarcon Monsanto told newsmen that a 7 quetzal minimum wage could not be granted to all workers because the economic situations of all businesses were not the same.

Minister Alarcon Monsanto finally said that his ministry is studying the minimum wage problem by sectors and not as a whole as CNUS has requested.

HONDURAS

PRESS SOURCES REBUT JACK ANDERSON ARTICLE

PA042057 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Mar 80 p 3 PA

[By Manuel Torres]

[Text] U.S. columnist Jack Anderson has questioned the honesty of the Honduran electoral process which, a few days before the 20 April elections, has sparked controversial arguments among forces of the right, center and left in this country. In Anderson's opinion the elections will be a "total outrage" and Jimmy Carter's administration is planning to make Honduras "an anticommunist bunker against the people's efforts for insurrection." These statements have caused a tremendous commotion among conservative sectors in the country.

Some local newsmen, politicians and government officials have harshly criticized Anderson for this. His views on Honduras have been labeled as fantasies, illogical, highly infantile, misinforming, malevolent accusations and provoking.

Amilcar Santamaria who writes the "Opinion" column for the newspaper LA PRENSA calls Anderson an augur and accuses him of spreading lies. Herman Allan Padget, spokesman for the governing military junta says: "Anderson is absolutely misinformed and does not possess inside information as he always pretends to." In its editorial, EL HERALDO strongly criticizes Anderson although it admits that he is a world-famous newsmen.

Hernan Corrales Padilla, president of the Patriotic Front and of the Christian Democratic Party, says: "Some may think that Anderson is misinformed, but everyone knows that he relies on trustworthy sources which in this case are from the United States." Enrique Ortiz Colindres, outstanding Liberal Party member and former president of the Central American Economic Integration Bank, points out: "Anderson does not represent a man, he represents a team of professional newsmen in search of real hot news and whose objective is to uncover the world's big scandals."

According to Anderson everything seems to indicate that the April elections will be a "total outrage" and that the electoral registration was a fraud in favor of the national party.

Jose Pineda Gomez, a Liberal Party candidate for deputy for the district of Francisco Morazan, said about the fraud: "Anderson's opinion regarding the electoral process has no foundation, if based on isolated cases denounced by the Liberal Party, to draw general conclusions."

Amilcar Santamaria said: "Only after the elections can we say if they were fraudulent. Whatever is said before is mere speculation." Hernan Corrales Padilla: "The fraud has already been planned. What occurred in Orocuina and in Santa Rita de Yoro clearly confirms it." Enrique Ortiz Colindres: "As member of the Liberal Party, I never doubted that from the beginning the process was fraudulent." Herman Allan Padget: "No request for aid has been submitted to U.S. State Department or to President Carter at any time, in exchange for becoming an instrument of U.S. politics."

An EL HERALDO editorial says: "Although outrageous, we have to admit that what Jack Anderson is doing is to incite the extreme left, the communist factions and the terrorist and guerrilla groups operating in the three neighboring countries against us."

Enrique Ortiz Colindres: "Honduras can be made the center of democracy in Central America and not a totalitarian beachhead controlled either by leftwing or rightwing foreign interests." Jose Pineda Gomez: "I do not think that Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia will be the presidential candidate of the National Party." Herman Allan Padget said: "At no time has this been suggested." Enrique Ortiz Colindres: "I doubt if General Paz Garcia, a man who is almost considered a national hero, will be deceived by false promises."

Liberal Party Member Responds

PA042058 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Mar 80 p 3 PA

[Excerpts] Enrique Ortiz Colindres, [member of the Liberal Party] does not believe that Honduras can be turned into a bunker to oppose the people's insurrection, when instead, it "can be made the center of democracy in Central America and not a totalitarian beachhead controlled either by leftwing or rightwing foreign interests." He said this to TIEMPO when referring to a Jack Anderson report about the Honduran electoral process being a "real outrage."

Colindres said that "it is really serious for Honduras to have highly qualified persons making such charges, because it was that type of columnist as well as the Washington POST which toppled Richard Nixon's administration with the Watergate scandal."

According to Ortiz Colindres, if what Anderson says is true, everyone in Honduras knows that it would be the fuse which would set off the explosion of violence, because the 1.2 million electors who are trusting in having an honest election to elect their government legally would have their hopes frustrated, the armed forces' promise would be tossed aside and the people would be forced to seek another way to restore the nation's dignity.

Apart from what Anderson has said and from what foreign sources have commented upon regarding the Honduran electoral process, Ortiz Colindres added that "there is no confidence abroad that the Honduran electoral process is honest, since from the beginning there were military and civilian sectors that were always interested in finding a constitutional solution for Colonel Melgar Castro to stay in power."

"As for General Paz Garcia accepting the National Party candidacy for president, I don't doubt for a minute that the party leaders would like this because they have always supported the military officer who is in power at the time as their candidate. However, I doubt if General Paz Garcia, who is almost considered a national hero, will be carried away by false promises. I think he has enough self-respect and honesty not to betray the people," Ortiz Colindres stated.

PLOT TO PREVENT PEOPLE FROM VOTING DISCUSSED

PA041908 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 29 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt] It was unofficially reported in Tegucigalpa that the Honduran Army reportedly has documents which involve several mass organizations in an alleged plot to violently prevent voters from participating in the 20 April elections.

One thousand Hondurans participated today in the so-called freedom march promoted to fight abstentionism in the elections for members to a constituent assembly.

Air force helicopters flew over the march. The march was organized by the private sector to demonstrate, just as it was done in San Pedro Sula 2 weeks ago, that the communists are a minority in Honduras.

TIEMPO COMMENTS ON GOVERNMENT INSINUATION OF TREASON

PA041848 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Mar 80 p 6 PA

[Editorial: "When A Government Insinuates Treason"]

[Text] Treason is the crime committed when a citizen breaks his loyalty to the fatherland. The penalty is harsh when the crime is proved. Treason is usually committed for political motives especially when an election campaign is underway. In our country, it has been part of the political violence and when the insinuation stems from the government it becomes part of the customary intimidation to silence criticism against the government or some of its ranking officials.

The usual practice is for an official spokesman, through ignorance or convenience, to confuse the fatherland with the government. This confusion is frequent, particularly when a weak leader is in power. It also happens that when such an insinuation is directed at a newspaper, it does not express the opinion of the ruler but the wickedness of some meddlesome spokesmen. In this case, commentaries in the morning or evening bulletin published by the governing junta's press office have voiced insinuations about this newspaper, TIEMPO.

The enmity of the official source is nothing new. It has been evident for some time and is evident again now in the heat of the election campaign. It has increased as if the critical position of this paper were blocking the aspirations of all the candidates for the Constituent Assembly who see their election as an opportunity to take over power.

If, in fact, the crime of treason could be typified, we are certain that the government would not be hesitant; that it would take immediate action with the typical violence it would use against a newspaper not only showing a critical attitude, but an upright one convinced that it is doing its duty by criticizing the official mistakes and corruption. There is no such crime, and if it is invoked in official radio announcements, it merely means that the opinion of this paper is neither unconditional with those in power nor will it yield to this type of compulsion.

Governments that place themselves outside the responsibility inherent to all serious governments which respect public opinion deliberately confuse the fatherland with the government; that is, with themselves. The incumbent military government has been quite inclined to this confusion, and it is not the first time it has branded the social sectors representing insurrection in Honduras as traitors. The president of the junta has done this in Honduras and he allowed this to slip out during his tour of the United States.

Whoever is not politically with him has no fatherland, as if he were the reincarnation of our fatherland and its material, moral and spiritual values in addition to those others which, in order not to mention them, we shall call most excellent. Natural resources are part of the fatherland, an undeniable part, and yet the government is offering them to the highest bidder as if it owned them rather than the present and future generations of Hondurans. Yet nobody has made insinuations as to its patriotic weakness and scarce loyalty to the fatherland's essential values.

Independence, freedom and sovereignty are founded on the rational use of these resources, not in giving them to transnational interests that do as they like with our sovereignty. Therefore, in this type of insinuation about treason the official spokesmen cannot be the ones to throw the first stone and appear as forgivers of the crimes of others. [sentence as published] What government having sure evidence of treason fails to proceed accordingly?

If there are Hondurans who betray the fatherland and the government limits itself to insinuations about such a crime, it becomes an accomplice and liable if it fails to do anything about it. The government should be circumspect in its statements, and it behooves it to review its actions from the viewpoint of the people's interests, particularly if it is looking toward the constituent assembly with the poorly disguised idea of succeeding itself.

JUNTA CALLS STUDENTS, TEACHERS TO MEETING

PA080038 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1701 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran Armed Forces Superior Council has called teachers and students of various political trends to a meeting scheduled for the next few days, it was reported here today. The decision was taken because teacher and student organizations had announced street demonstrations to protest government measures opposed to their petitions to the Education Ministry.

However, the military Superior Council believes the demonstrations are for the purpose of creating a climate of unrest and insecurity among the people so they will abstain from participating in the 20 April elections. On that date Hondurans will elect a constituent national assembly which should initiate the process of returning civilians to power.

There is a strong movement led by the Honduran Patriotic Front, grouping all dissidents, including teachers and students, who proposed boycotting the elections, even though they do not offer any other alternative.

The electoral campaign includes the traditional Liberal and National parties and the new National Innovation and Unity Party, as well as four independent deputy candidacies.

The teachers have demanded 800 more teachers' posts at primary level, a system of seniority for the national education system, a 100 lempira (\$50) salary increase for teachers working in Gracias a Dios Department, in the extreme eastern part of the country, and suspension of repressive measures by the Education Ministry. The students have requested the release of persons they consider political prisoners and nationalization of private and semi-government schools.

NICARAGUA

NETHERLANDS NEWSMEN DISCUSS ATTACK IN EL SALVADOR

PA042337 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2205 GMT 4 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 4 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Netherlands newsman Jan van der Putten said here today in Managua, that "the Salvadoran right is provoking the left into an armed uprising in order to crush it, because the left is now in a weaker fighting position." Van der Putten, together with Frank Diamand, Rue van der Heidjen and Rwet [as heard] Frank Buren arrived yesterday from San Salvador after having been shot at by an army patrol in that city. Diamand, Rue van der Heidjen and Rwet Frank Buren arrived yesterday from San Salvador after having been shot at by an army patrol in that city. Diamand and Van der Heidjen were wounded.

"We were leaving a restaurant when a patrol stopped us. We identified ourselves, were questioned and later after being allowed to continue, we were shot from behind," Van der Putten told ACAN-EFE. The Netherlands newsmen said they were asked if they had brought instructions from Nicaragua for the Salvadoran leftist organizations. They denied this.

After the incident, protested by the Netherlands Government, the Salvadoran Government junta, made up of military and Christian socialist leaders, [as received], offered the newsmen guarantees and informed them that they had been seen in suspicious circumstances near the Guatemalan Embassy, where 2 days ago the ambassador of that country had been fired upon.

"This is absolutely false, because the Guatemalan Embassy is not located near that area," the newsman said. "We were practically subjected to the 'attempted to escape' law. We were told that the members of the patrol were being tried, but this trial does not interest us in a country where the law of the jungle" prevails, Van der Putten added.

Asked about similarities in the liberation struggles in El Salvador and Nicaragua, he replied that the situation is very different. "The struggle is waged between leftist and rightist groups in which the latter is better armed and the other one does not have the military capacity to guarantee a triumph of the people's organizations. The centrist government is dominated by the right, and I do not believe that the time is proper for a total offensive by the Revolutionary Coordinating Board," Van der Putten concluded. He added that his three companions will leave tonight for the Netherlands, via Panama.

COMMENTARY URGES BUSINESSMEN TO COOPERATE IN ECONOMY

PA072246 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Commentary: "The Nicaraguans Are at a Crucial Moment"--read by Freddy Rostran Arauz]

[Text] This is the moment to show with our actions if we are or are not with the popular revolution. This is a time of testing. Everybody is saying, "I am with the revolution," but it is not enough just to say so. The revolutionary spirit and Sandinism are specific manifestations, and they must be specific manifestations.

For this reason, we repeat, this must be the time of truth. This is the time to show with significant deeds if we support the changes or if we are against them.

Today we will refer basically to the case of businessmen and will focus this commentary on the amendments to the income tax law.

In view of the fact that we have adopted the phrase "patriotic businessmen" in our process, and we seriously expect the businessmen to be aware of the historical moment they are experiencing, we must start by defining the meaning of "patriotic businessmen." It is very hard to find a businessman who is not attached to his class interests. It is very hard to find a businessman who is not clinging to the privileges that the previous regime promoted, fomented and guaranteed for a minority that had reached a certain position at the expense of the weak.

We are not referring to the backward sectors which still want to be in the Middle Ages so as not to pay for any kind of benefits or abide by any law of a social nature.

It is very hard, we were saying, to find businessmen who place the interests of the country before their own privileges. However, this is what is being asked of the Nicaraguan businessmen and it boils down to a simple action: to put businesses into operation, produce and invest instead of sending capital abroad.

In the promulgation of the amendments to the income tax law, the famous rules of the game have been established and the guarantees demanded by a group from the private sector have been granted. With the new law, 60 percent of the wealth of the country will be for the people and 40 percent for the proprietors of firms. Those who are very well informed know that this rate is not among the highest in the world. However, we want to outline three points:

1. Truly patriotic businessmen--those who have enough foresight to understand that this process is irreversible, that the people's interest will predominate increasingly and that the most practical and correct thing to do is join the process instead of trying to harrass it--would start to reactivate their businesses, and some were already doing so before this law was issued.
2. Businessmen who still cling to their interests and privileges and expect the revolution to guarantee them a certain volume of profit should get to work at once.
3. Those who understand that a people's revolution is occurring which will put an end to all forms of exploitation and repression and who do not agree, not only from class reasons but also because of ties with imperialism, will not accept the framework of guarantees offered them.

In Nicaragua we are all called on to participate in the great task of developing the backward country we have received. We are all called, but we shall see how many come. We realize the historic importance of this task, and participating in it is more an opportunity than a burden. Today Nicaragua is at a crucial moment. The young people are stepping forward and going to the mountains to teach people to read. Doctors are giving more services in rural areas. Newsmen will have to be observant and show whose interests they serve. Workers and peasants have been the firmest supporters and have said they are willing to work, even where others will not go. Businessmen, merchants, industrialists and ranchers have also arrived at this crossroads.

In view of the need to reactivate the country and in view of the coming agricultural year, the vital question is: Will they join the process implemented by the people or will they remain with their arms folded?

CDS LEADERSHIP TAKES STEPS TO REACTIVATE COMMITTEES

PA072010 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Due to the critical view that not everything done by the Sandinist Defense Committees [CDS] has been positive, the national CDS leadership has pointed to the need to begin a new vigorous activity in accordance with the country's present situation. In a seminar held at the Central American University this weekend, CDS coordinators analyzed the achievements as well as the weaknesses. It has decided that opportunism must be eradicated from the CDS. Assemblies which will be held in each block were announced as the first step in re-activating the committees that have been losing their militant spirit.

TALKS TO FORM PATRIOTIC FRONT CONTINUE

PA072020 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] The talks to formally create the Patriotic Front of the Revolution continue. Political leaders have revealed that discussions on its organization will start tomorrow. The Sandinist National Liberation Front, the Independent Liberal Party, the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, the Nicaraguan Socialist Party and the People's Social Christian Party are participating in this political project.

According to reports, a consensus on the principles of the front already exists. The Patriotic Front of the Revolution will be the political expression of national unity, an indispensable condition to carry out the reconstruction of Nicaragua.

PANAMANIAN LABOR LEADER FORESEES LIBERATION STRUGGLE

PA071950 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1803 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 7 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Santiago Cajar, leader of the Panamanian graphic workers, has said here that "there is a mini-Pentagon in the Panama Canal Zone which threatens Panamanian freedoms and independence."

Cajar participated in the Third Congress of Graphic Workers of Central America, Panama and Belize held in this capital over the weekend.

The Panamanian representative said, "There will come a day when my country will embark on the struggle for total liberation." Cajar added, amid applause during the congress, that "the day is not too far away when Panama will have a revolutionary triumph like that won in Nicaragua by the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN)."

The congress condemned the genocide practiced by the Salvadoran civilian-military junta. Roberto Chavez, delegate of the Union of Graphic Workers of El Salvador, called on the peoples of the world to show solidarity with his country's harsh struggle for liberation. The congress also criticized the Christian Democratic Party, which, with the military, shares responsibility for the repression of the Salvadoran people.

The Congress of Graphic Workers of Central America, Panama and Belize agreed to convoke, at a site and date to be chosen later, a congress to create the Central American federation of press and graphic arts workers. The federation's main activity will be to struggle for its workers' socioeconomic benefits.

GUATEMALAN COLUMNIST CRITICIZES SANDINISTS, COMMUNISTS

PA051608 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 29 Mar 80 pp 10, 14 PA

[From the Vox Populi column: "Sandino and the Sandinists of Today." by Mauricio Menendez V.]

[Excerpts] The groups of Nicaraguans who call themselves "Sandinists"--taking the surname of that Nicaraguan patriot, Augusto Cesar Sandino, the general of "free men," who for several years between 1927 and the early thirties fought for a just cause, the liberation of Nicaragua from U.S. intervention which was encouraged by the submissiveness of Nicaraguans of that troubled era--are now possibly beginning to realize (late of course) that they are supporting the wrong cause. Sandino would never agree with these so-called "followers," especially with the imposition of the ideology they are so openly determined to follow. The cause is totally mistaken because Sandino was an authentic patriot, opposed to any interventions of a proslavery nature. That was the reason why he fought inside the Segovias; they were his refuge against the Yankee enemy, against the invading Yankee. Sandino wanted a free Nicaragua, a Nicaragua of men free of any enslaving bonds. That is why he faced the Marines of Teddy Roosevelt and Coolidge, under the protection of the dense Nicaraguan foliage and the tormenting mosquito, also an enemy of the Yankees.

History recognizes that Cesar Sandino was a genuine fighter and a pure, loyal Central American nationalist. Would he now agree with those who are trying to use his cause to establish another MARXIST BASE in the American continent?

If only these groups had focused their efforts and military objectives on attacking and overthrowing the Somoza family and the elimination of the ruthless National Guard, it would now be acceptable to use the name of Sandino as a combat banner. However, this has not happened. Instead, a foreign ideology is intervening, an ideology which is repudiated by all free men, by those who followed Sandino. This ideological intervention must be severely criticized.

If this were the era of Sandino, Nicaragua would find itself without Somoza and without communism, because Sandino did not want to see his country or Central America enslaved by foreign yokes of any color or type. Therefore, Tomas Borge and companeros, you have made a mistake in using Augusto Cesar Sandino as a shield to act contrary to his patriotic aspirations.

JOURNALIST CHAIRMAN ARRIVES, BRINGS DONATION TO ANN

PA081304 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpt] I bring a message of the solidarity of all international newsmen with the Nicaraguan people, Companero (Karl Nordestan), chairman of the International Organization of Journalists [IOJ], said on his arrival in Nicaragua yesterday. He has his headquarters in Czechoslovakia. He said that the international revolutionary profile of our country has had a major impact in the world.

The IOJ also sent a donation for the NEW NICARAGUA NEWS AGENCY [ANN] of [words indistinct] which will be used to facilitate the work of the agency in telling the world the truth about the course of the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. He also offered to establish close ties with the Union of Journalists in Nicaragua to provide it solid political support to foil the distorted news about Nicaragua disseminated by imperialist news agencies.

The distortion of the news is nothing new, Companero (Nordestan) said, since it has been used ever since people's democracies appeared in the Soviet Union, Africa and Latin America. The attitude of these international news agencies has been condemned by the nonaligned countries and UNESCO and we will continue struggling until we establish a new international information system based on truth.

DEPUTY MINISTER DISCUSSES AGREEMENT WITH USSR

PA071935 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

[Interview with Transportation Deputy Minister Bernardino Turcios--date, place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Turcios] Regarding foreign policy, the government (?supported) by our vanguard, the Sandinist National Liberation Front, has determined that Nicaragua will follow an independent and nonaligned policy establishing relations with all nations that respect the self-determination [words indistinct]. Our country recently started to establish diplomatic and trade relations with all those countries in the world which respect [words indistinct].

We have taken the first few steps to establish air transportation ties with the Soviet Union. The agreement establishes the guidelines for the general activity, the designation of routes, the stopovers in the territory, the date on which operations will start, the [word indistinct] for landing, the [words indistinct], the people's safety according to international regulations, the [word indistinct], lighting and meteorology and several general rules which are included in the 1944 agreement signed by all countries.

What we basically established with this bilateral agreement is the beginning of relations on air transportation. The only thing we established was the origin and destination of the flights which are: Moscow-Managua and Managua-Moscow. The intermediate points were left up to Lanica and Aeroflot to decide in the near future.

[Question] When will the flights start?

[Answer] We have tentatively set a July date. They [the Soviets] want to start on 19 July. We will see if this is possible.

[Question] What is the importance of this agreement?

[Answer] Basically it draws our friendly ties with all the nations that are willing to cooperate with our revolution process closer.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON MOISES HASSAN'S VISIT TO GDR

For the East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND text of the joint communique issued at the end of government junta member Moises Hassan's visit to the German Democratic Republic from 27 March-2 April, see the German Democratic Republic section of the 7 April East Europe DAILY REPORT.

U.S. DIPLOMATIC BREAK WITH IRAN REPORTED

FLO80040 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Apr 80 FL

[Text] International press agencies this afternoon reported that the Washington government broke diplomatic relations with Iran and ordered Iranian diplomats to leave the United States. In a TV speech from the White House, James Carter announced other economic and trade sanctions against the Tehran government.

Today, the Islamic Revolution Council headed by Iran's President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr reaffirmed the measure announced by Ayatollah Khomeyni to the effect that the Iranian Parliament will be the one to decide the fate of the hostages that are still at the U.S. Embassy in Tehran.

SALVADORAN COORDINATING BOARD MEMBERS INTERVIEWED

FLO50119 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Apr 80 FL

[Interview presumably in Havana with Mario Aquinada, Jesus Suarez, and Facundo Guardado, members of El Salvador's Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the Masses; date not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] What does the founding of the Democratic Front mean for the struggle of the Salvadoran people?

[Mario Aquinada] In a word, the formation of the Democratic Front strengthens the revolution in El Salvador and weakens the enemies of the people, since the Revolutionary Coordinating Board--which represents the forces of the left and leads the Salvadoran process--is now joined in a unified and organized manner by the various democratic, progressive forces that exist in El Salvador. Among these we have the National Revolutionary Movement, a sector of the Christian Democratic Party opposed to the rightist faction headed by Napoleon Duarte, as well as former government officials, professionals, independents, individuals connected to the church. Hence, this is a broad force that includes everyone in El Salvador who is for change, democracy and social justice.

[Question] Comrade Jesus, as to the escalation of repression, how are the Salvadoran people preparing themselves for and facing this situation?

[Jesus Suarez] Yes. There is no doubt that the enemy has increased its army, has created new battalions and new instruments of violence. But for the past 10 years the people have carried out an armed struggle and the sustained mass struggle has improved in quality to the extent that now the masses have incorporated the militias and the self-defense brigades into the armed struggle. The whole nation is asking for arms although the enemy is merciless in its repression. The people are defending themselves. They are learning to use arms, and at this moment, we are at the peak of our struggle, and liberation is our only path and our only star, and at this moment we win or die for the freedom of El Salvador.

[Question] Facundo, as to the solidarity received by the Salvadoran people, what is its nature?

[Facundo Guardado] The solidarity of all the peoples of the world with the struggle of the Salvadoran people has begun to manifest itself in various ways. Materially, morally, hundreds of organizations from all over the world are expressing their support for a just cause. They support us because they are convinced that the struggle of the Salvadoran people is the struggle of a whole nation against reaction and imperialism.

In this sense, we have won the support of peoples of Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean and of religious organizations, organizations fighting for peace, the freedom of peoples. They are all uniting, but we still believe that the support for the struggle of the Salvadoran people at this time must be stronger, more extensive, much more constant, because we are at a juncture when the Salvadoran people do need that international support as a strategic element to crush reaction and for its final victory.

LAWYERS' RESOLUTION SUPPORTS SALVADORANS, SCORES U.S.

FL051356 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Apr 80 FL

[Text] The Comparative Law Seminar which met for 2 days at Havana's Academy of Sciences has ended with the signing of a special resolution condemning the repression suffered by the Salvadoran people and supporting their brave struggle. The National Union of Cuban Lawyers and the U.S. National Conference of Black Lawyers organized the event, which was also attended by lawyers from Canada, Jamaica and Grenada. The document demands the withdrawal of the U.S. military base in Guantanamo and repudiates the U.S. economic blockade on our country.

PUERTO RICAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE WITH EL SALVADOR FORMED

PA052001 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 5 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Felipe Chirino, member of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party Central Committee and its representative in Cuba, has revealed the creation in his country of a committee of support for the revolutionary struggle of the Salvadoran people. He said there is a revolutionary situation underway in El Salvador whose only goal will be an absolute people's victory over the forces of imperialism and the national oligarchy.

Finally, on behalf of Puerto Rican patriots, Chirino condemned the assassination of Oscar Arnulfo Romero, archbishop of San Salvador, and the constant massacres perpetrated by the dictatorship against the Salvadoran people.

'FASCIST TERRORISM' IN GUATEMALA CENTERS ON UNIVERSITY

PA070244 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Apr 80 PA

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] Lately the fascist terrorism practiced by the Guatemalan regime has centered its attention on San Carlos University, where many professors and students, and in particular, University Rector Saul Osorio Paz, keep up a constant campaign against government terror and the poor socioeconomic conditions affecting that Central American people.

The fascist armed bands, which in Guatemala are actually specialized tentacles of the official repressive bodies of the tyranny, so far this year have killed over 50 university students, most of whom were brutally tortured until they were beyond recognition. On 24 March Guatemalan lawyer Hugo Rolando Melgar, legal adviser of San Carlos University, was murdered by machinegun fire in the streets of Guatemala City. Two days later, Professor Julio Alfonso Figueroa, who was also director of the Institute of Economic and Social Research of San Carlos University, was also machinegunned on the streets of the Guatemalan capital. The repulsive sadism of the paid assassins of the Guatemalan regime was clearly evidenced by the manner in which they killed Professor Figueroa.

According to eyewitnesses, as the professor headed for the university in the company of his wife, a motorcycle carrying two men armed with machineguns approached the automobile and when the vehicle stopped at an intersection, the two men stuck their weapons through the car windows and opened fire. Figueroa was shot over 30 times in the back and skull while his wife was seriously wounded.

It came as no surprise that Julio Alfonso Figueroa should be murdered a few days after having revealed that the so-called National Development Plan imposed by the Guatemalan regime is a program that responds only to the needs and interests of the native oligarchy and the imperialist transnationals. Figueroa and Melgar were close collaborators of the university rector, Saul Paz, whom the anticommunist secret army has threatened with death for 2 years.

Hugo Rolando Melgar was also constantly threatened. He left a letter to be published in case of his death. That wish was carried out by Osorio Paz and Melgar's posthumous message starts as follows: At these moments in which the immediate future of our country is so dark--although the day is not far when the people's struggle will brighten it--it is reasonable to think that the repressive apparatus of the proimperialist and fascist dictatorship in power in desperation continues to murder all Guatemalans who maintain a dignified attitude in view of the current state of affairs. Should my physical elimination be decreed, I consider it necessary to make the following reflections: That death, the same as life, must be faced with dignity, serenity and strength, that is, without dramatic scenes or mystical attitudes. It must be realized at all times that the world and the life and history of mankind must continue their advance toward progress and the peoples' liberation with determination. In a system where youths whose lives are just getting underway are killed and where thousands of children die of malnutrition, the death of a 50-year-old man should not be mourned with tears. It should be enough to think that in our country the average life span is only 40 years, that there are only a few Guatemalan workers and peasants who live beyond that age. It must also be remembered that in the face of the big problems confronting the millions of dispossessed in Guatemala, our solidarity with them is fundamental, without having to reach martyrdom, but merely by observing an honest and straight attitude toward our fellowmen and identifying ourselves with the just causes, loyal to the majorities exploited by imperialism and the national oligarchies.

PARAGUAYAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRATULATES CASTRO

FLO71437 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 7 Apr 80 FL

[Text] The Paraguayan Communist Party has sent a letter to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC Central Committee, and through him to all the Cuban people on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the victory at Playa Giron. The message states that the imperialist aggression was not only directed against the Cuban revolution but also against the legitimate right of the Latin American peoples to gain their true independence and freedom. In closing, the letter of the Paraguayan Communist Party wishes the Cuban people many successes in building the new socialist society.

SOVIET CULTURE MINISTER PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

FLO50044 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Apr 80 FL

[Text] Petr Nilovich Demichev, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and minister of culture of the USSR, arrives tomorrow in our country. The Soviet minister will be making an official visit at the invitation of Cuba's Culture Ministry.